

CLEARWATER
GROUP

November 29, 2012

Office of the Secretary

Federal Communications Commission

445 12th Street, S.W.

Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: DA 12-1863, IB Docket No. 12-340; RM-11683

Dear Federal Communications Commission:

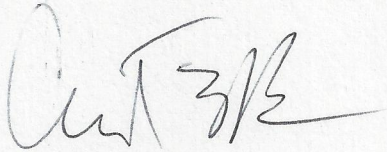
If I have learned anything in my professional career, it's that the simplest answer is usually the most obvious. That conclusion is derived from a broad spectrum of experience: from building a new private financial services company; to directing divisions of a gubernatorial, senatorial, and presidential campaign; to lobbying at the local, state and federal level. Sometimes it's far too easy to overlook the obvious answer – and, given the number of clichés that say that very same thing, it's clearly a problem that plagues us all. “Can't see the forest for the trees.” “If it was a snake it would have bit you.” And so on.

In the case of LightSquared's License Modification Application and Petition, the answer to a decade of testing, trying, and problem-solving is right in front of our noses, in LightSquared's proposal to give up the 10 MHz of spectrum adjacent to GPS's L-1 band, and instead share 5 MHz with NOAA, which is, conveniently enough, located adjacent to 5 MHz already licensed to LightSquared.

And as a Mississippian by birth and now by choice, I can attest firsthand that the technology LightSquared could offer our state is long overdue. Broadband is a big deal in Mississippi, and, from a designated staffer in the governor's office; to a policy study group; to private companies like Mississippi-based C-Spire, we are all looking for a more accessible; more reliable; more affordable product.

I hope you will grant LightSquared's petition, and do so expeditiously. Don't wait and let "hindsight be 20/20."

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Austin F. Barbour". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "A" and a stylized "B" at the end.

Austin F. Barbour

Cc: Senator Roger Wicker